



Housing and Homelessness: Selected Resources

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This resource list is limited in scope primarily to selected books and reports from the CAMH Library collections, supplemented with web resources and journal articles. Its purpose is to serve as an introduction and overview of the topic, not an in depth literature review. There is a focus on Canadian resources and local (Toronto) initiatives. Prepared June, 2011.

Available online at: http://www.camh.net/camh_library Resource Lists

Resources are listed under the following headings:

- Definitions
- Finding Housing in the GTA (Greater Toronto Area)
- Strategies for Toronto
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- Focus on Mental Health and/or Substance Misuse
- Strategies / Interventions
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- Key Web Sites

Definitions used in Housing

There are many terms used to describe types of accommodation and housing for those affected by poverty, mental health and or substance use. Here are some sources to check.

From CAMH

Consult the Glossary in the CAMH **Housing Guide 2004-2006**. Although this directory is no longer current, it is still a useful resource. It is available to consult in the CAMH Library, RC 448 .C34 H68 2005.

See also: CAMH's [Types of Housing](#) webpage which describes the 4 main categories of housing.

From Housing Connections

See housing related terminology at:

<http://www.housingconnections.ca/HousingInfo/Definitions.asp>

Finding Housing in the GTA (Greater Toronto Area)

Toronto Mental Health & Addictions Supportive Housing Network

<http://www.tosupportivehousing.ca/>

Provides a Housing Unit Registry. Housing application form is available.

CAMH's [Housing](#) Public Webpage (CAMH Clinicians, see the Intranet [Housing](#) page.)

Provides information on legal rights, tips for house hunting and external links to answer key questions.

City of Toronto Housing Webpage

<http://www.toronto.ca/housing>

Strategies for Toronto

Golden, A. (1999). *Taking responsibility for homelessness: an action plan for Toronto: report of the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force*. Toronto: City of Toronto. HV 4510 .O5 T34 1999.

The Action Plan was monitored. See the Report Cards at:

<http://www.toronto.ca/homelessness/index.htm>.

Wellesley Institute. (2006). *The blueprint to end homelessness in Toronto: a two-part action plan*.

Retrieved from [http://wellesleyinstitute.com/files/blueprint/TheBlueprint\(final\).pdf](http://wellesleyinstitute.com/files/blueprint/TheBlueprint(final).pdf)

Wellesley Institute. (2006). *Framework for the blueprint to end homelessness in Toronto*.

Retrieved from [http://wellesleyinstitute.com/files/blueprint/Blueprint_TheFramework\(final\).pdf](http://wellesleyinstitute.com/files/blueprint/Blueprint_TheFramework(final).pdf)

For current City of Toronto initiatives, consult:

An Affordable Housing Action Plan 2010 - 2020 adopted by Toronto City Council in 2009.

http://www.toronto.ca/affordablehousing/pdf/hot_actionplan.pdf

and:

Homelessness Partnering Strategy, <http://www.toronto.ca/housing/about-hpi.htm>.

General Resources

Bringing Recovery Home. Theme Issue. *CrossCurrents* Winter 2010/11.

Online at: <http://www.camhcrosscurrents.net/archives/winter2010/index.html>

This issue examines various models of housing with supports, but focuses primarily on supported housing, independent community housing with supports available from the community.

Crowe, C. (2007) *Dying for a home: homeless activists speak out*. Toronto: Between the Lines. HV 4509 .C76 2007.

Well known Toronto social activist and 'street nurse' introduces the reader to the stories of 10 former homeless people who are fellow activists.

Frankish, C.J., Hwang, S.W. & Quantz, D. (2005). Homelessness and health in Canada: research lessons and priorities. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, 96 (Suppl 2), S23-S29.

Goering, P., Tolomiczenko, G., Sheldon, T., Boydell, K., & Wasylenki, D. (2002). Characteristics of persons who are homeless for the first time. *Psychiatric Services*, 53(11), 1472-1474.

Hulchanski, J.D., Campsie, P., Chau, S.B.Y., Hwang, S.W., & Paradis, E. (Ed.). (n.d.). *Finding Home: Policy Options for Addressing Homelessness in Canada*. Retrieved from

<http://www.homelesshub.ca/FindingHome>.

Includes many themes and special populations.

Mason, K., & Khandor, E. (2007). *The Street Health report 2007*. Toronto: Street Health.

RA 564.9 .H63 S77 2007. Retrieved from <http://www.streethealth.ca/publications.htm>

Mills, B. & Mancini, R. (2000/2001) *From homelessness to homefulness*. Toronto:

Transformational Learning Centre, OISE, University of Toronto. HV 4509 .M36 2000/2001

REACH (Research Alliance for Canadian Homelessness, Housing and Health). (2010). *Housing Vulnerability and Health: Canada's Hidden Emergency*. Retrieved from <http://www.homelesshub.ca>

Focus on Mental Health and/or Substance Misuse

Bourgois, P.I., & Schonberg, J. (2009). *Righteous doxed*. California Series in Public Anthropology 21. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. HV 5831. C2 B68 2009.
An anthropological study, spanning a decade, of 2 dozen homeless heroin injectors and crack smokers living on the streets of San Francisco. Photographs.

Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2007). *Improving the health of Canadians: mental health and homelessness*. Ottawa: CIHI. RC 451.4 H64 I56 2007. Retrieved from http://secure.cihi.ca/cihiweb/en/downloads/mental_health_presentation_aug22_2007_e.pdf

Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario. (2008). *Housing and mental health: background*. Retrieved from http://www.ontario.cmha.ca/admin_ver2/maps/cmha_housing_background.pdf

German, B., Butters, J., & Erickson, P.G. (2002). Flexing crack in Toronto: a deviant pathway to poor, homeless drug users. In S. Brochu, C. daAgra, & M. Cousineau (Eds.), *Drugs and crime: deviant pathways* (pp 155-165). Aldershot, UK: Ashgate. HV 5801. D834 2002.

Grinman, M.N. et al. (2010) Drug problems among homeless individuals in Toronto, Canada: prevalence, drugs of choice, and relation to health status. *BMC Public Health* 10:94. Retrieved from <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/10/94>

Hwang, S.W. (2006). Homelessness and harm reduction. *CMAJ*, 174(1), 50-51. Commentary.

Johnson, T.P. (Ed.). (2003). Homelessness and substance use. [Theme issue]. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 38(3-6).

Leff, H.S., Chow, C.M., Pepin, R., Conley, J., Allen, I.E., & Seaman, C.A. (2009). Does one size fit all? What we can do and can't learn from a meta-analysis of housing models for persons with mental illness. *Psychiatric Services*, 60(4), 473-482.

Strategies / Interventions

Bhugra, D. (2007). *Homelessness and mental health*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. RC 451.4 H64 H65 2007.

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Community Support and Research Unit. (2001) *Evaluating housing stability for people with serious mental illness at risk for homelessness*. Ottawa: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. RC 451.4 .H64 E83 2001.

Gillig, P.M. (2006). *Clinical guide to the treatment of the mentally ill homeless person*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Publishing. RC 451.4 .H64 C465 2006.

Hwang, S.W. et al. (2005). Interventions to improve the health of the homeless: a systematic review. *American Journal of Preventative Medicine*, 29(4), 311-319.

Street Health. (2007). *The Street Health Report 2007: Research Bulletin #1: Homelessness and hepatitis C*. Toronto: Street Health. RA 644 .H4 H65 2007. Retrieved from <http://www.streathhealth.ca/publications.htm>

Watson, L. (1999). *Not mad, bad or young enough: helping young homeless people with mental health problems*. Bristol, UK: The Policy Press. RC 451.4. H64 W37 1999.

Focus on Women

Cheung, A.M. & Hwang, S.H. (2004). Risk of death among homeless women: a cohort study and review of the literature. *CMAJ*, 170(8), 1243-1247.

Kappel Ramji Consulting Group. (2002). *Common occurrence: the impact of homelessness on women's health. phase II. community based action research: final report*. Toronto: Sistering; Community Care Access Centre. RA 564.9 .H63 C65 2002.

For the Executive Summary & ordering information visit <http://www.sistering.org>.

Novac, S. (2002) *On her own: young women and homelessness in Canada = Ou se tourner? La situation des jeunes femmes sans abri au Canada*. Ottawa: Status of Women Canada. HV 4509. O62 2002. Retrieved from <http://www.homelesshub.ca>

Prescott, L., Soares, P., Konnath, K., and Bassuk, E. (2008). *A long journey home: a guide for creating trauma-informed services for mothers and children experiencing homelessness*. Rockville, MD: Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; the Daniels Fund; National Child Traumatic Stress Network; W.K. Kellogg Foundation. HV 4505 .L66. Retrieved from <http://www.homeless.samhsa.gov>

Street Health. (2007). *The Street Health Report 2007: Research Bulletin #2: Women and homelessness*. HV 4510 .C34 W65 2007. Retrieved from <http://www.streathhealth.ca/publications.htm>.

Findings from a study conducted by Street Health in 2006/2007 on the health status and access to health care of homeless people in Toronto.

Focus on Youth

Barnaby, L., Penn, R., & Erickson, P.G. *Drugs, homelessness & health: homeless youth speak out about harm reduction: The Shout Clinic harm reduction report, 2010*. Toronto: Shout Clinic. Retrieved from <http://wellesleyinstitute.com/>

Karababow, J. (2004). *Being young and homeless: understanding how youth enter and exit street life*. New York: Peter Lang. HV 4509 .K37 2004

This documents a study by Karababow of street youth in Toronto, Montreal, Halifax and Guatemala City. Stories and struggles of children and youth living on the street are presented and successful programs empowering homeless young people are highlighted.

Whitbeck, L. B. (2009). *Mental health and emerging adulthood among homeless young people*. New York: Psychology Press. RJ 507 .H64 W445 2009

Winland, D., Gaetz, S., & Patton, T. (2011). *Family matters: homeless youth & Eva's Initiative's Family Reconnect Program*. Toronto: The Homeless Hub. Retrieved from http://www.homelesshub.ca/ResourceFiles/FamilyMatters_April2011.pdf.

Focus on the Prison System

John Howard Society of Toronto. (2010). *Homeless and jailed: jailed and homeless*. Toronto. Retrieved from <http://www.johnhowardtor.on.ca/pdfs/HomelessAndJailed.pdf>.

Riordan, T. (2004) *Exploring the circle: mental illness, homelessness and the criminal justice system in Canada*. Ottawa: Library of Parliament, Parliamentary Information and Research Services. RC 451.4 .P68 R46 2004

Open Policy and Chronicle Analytics. (2011). *Making Toronto safer: a cost-benefit analysis of transitional housing supports for men leaving incarceration*. Toronto: John Howard Society of Toronto; Toronto Community Foundation. Retrieved from <http://www.johnhowardtor.on.ca/pdfs/FINAL%20MAY%2031%20JohnHowardcomplete.pdf>

Key Web Sites - a source for reports and strategies useful for advocacy work.

At Home/Chez Soi Project, Mental Health Commission of Canada

<http://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English/Pages/homelessness.aspx>

A research project with 5 sites across Canada that will provide support for 100s of people across Canada while researching for evidence for the best approaches to help those with mental illness that are homeless.

Building a Path to Home. Dual Diagnosis Implementation Committee of Toronto

http://www.camh.net/path_home/

CAMH Public Policy Documents on Housing

http://www.camh.net/Public_policy/Public_policy_papers/index.html#Housing

Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario

http://www.ontario.cmha.ca/services_and_supports.asp See [Housing](#)

Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA)

<http://www.equalityrights.org/cera/>

Advocates, locally, provincially and nationally.

Centre for Research on Inner City Health (CRICH)

<http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/>

See: Homelessness, Housing and Health

Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto

<http://www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/>

HomeComing Community Choice Coalition

<http://www.homecomingcoalition.com/>

This organization promotes the rights of people affected by mental illness to live in the neighbourhood of their choice.

The Homeless Hub

<http://www.homelesshub.ca>

A web-based research library and resource centre supported by the Canadian Homelessness Research Network, <http://homelessresearch.net>.

Homelessness Partnering Strategy (Human Resources & Skills Development Canada)

<http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/homelessness/index.shtml>

Supplies support and funding to Canadian communities.

Homelessness Resource Center (SAMHSA, US)

<http://homelessness.samhsa.gov/>

Ottawa Inner City Health

<http://ottawainnercityhealth.ca/Home>

Provides and coordinates health care and beds for the homeless in Ottawa. Also conducts research and provides a 'Research' page with reports, articles and links.

Street Health (Toronto)

<http://www.streethealth.ca>

Street Health is a non-profit community-based agency providing physical and mental health programs to homeless and under housed individuals in the southeast core of Toronto. See the Publications section for the newsletter and other publications which include research reports that include statistics, strategies and good practice.

Vancouver: **Homelessness in Vancouver**

<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/housing/homelessness.htm>

Core reports, strategy documents, presentations and videos re the City of Vancouver.

Wellesley Institute (Toronto)

<http://wellesleyinstitute.com/>

The Wellesley Institute is a research and policy institute focusing on the determinants of urban health. Homelessness and affordable housing are priority areas of research.